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**Fire Officials Determine Moody Street Fire Began in Basement**

State Fire Marshal Stephen D. Coan and Waltham Fire Chief Richard Cardillo announced that the February 12 fire at 727-235 Moody Street, Waltham started in the basement of the Harley's and More business.

Chief Cardillo said, "While the most plausible heat source in the area is electrical, there was not enough evidence for our experts to scientifically rule that in or out. Therefore the fire will remain officially undetermined."

The National Fire Protection Association Standard 921 guides fire investigators that whenever the cause of a fire cannot be proven, the proper classification is "undetermined." Undetermined is also acceptable when multiple fire causes or ignition factors cannot be eliminated, leaving the investigator with most probable causes.

Coan said, "Fire investigators in Massachusetts are trained to systematically eliminate unintentional causes until they are left with only one cause that is supported by the witness statements and physical evidence."

The fire was jointly investigated by the Waltham Fire Department, the Waltham Police Department, and State Police assigned to the Office of the State Fire Marshal. Electrical experts assisted with the investigation.

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